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**SPECIAL ISSUE**

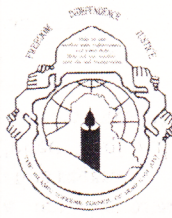
- \* The Sixth Commemoration of Late Ayatollah Alhakim's Martyrdom
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# THE ISCI BULLETIN

FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE JUSTICE



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ISLAMIC SUPREME COUNCIL OF IRAQ

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## H.E. Alhakim Calls On Neighboring Countries To Increase Water Release Into Iraq

### H.E. Alhakim Sends Letters On Iraqi Water Crisis



H.E. Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim, ISCI President and UIA leader, sent, on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, letters to each of Mr. Ahmadinejad, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Abdullah Gul, President of the Republic of Turkey, and Mr. Bashar al-Assad, the President of the Syrian Arab Republic.

H.E. Alhakim expressed his sincere respect and appreciation for the close historical ties between the Iraqi people and the peoples of these countries, calling on the Almighty, to give the people of those countries the power to achieve further progress and prosperity. H.E. Alhakim also appealed to the three presidents to take the initiative and prompt the necessary action to increase the release of water into Iraq, which confirms the spirit of love and cooperation between our country and the neighboring ones, and the recognition of the historical relations between the people. H.E. Alhakim expressed his deep concern regarding the lives of the Iraqi people, especially in the central and southern regions, because of the great suffering from water scarcity, causing concern over an environmental disaster affecting humans, animals, and plants and farming.

### The Evolution Of The UIA In Its Reconstruction

After a letter by H.E. Abdul Aziz Alhakim called on the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) parties to stick together for its great achievements, started a serious movement toward reconstruction and the formation of the UIA and have been many contacts, dialogues, meetings and deliberations so far, and the outcomes were as the following:

1-Continue meetings between the five parties (ISCI, Da'awa Party, the independents, Da'awa Iraq organization, and the Badr Organization for Reconstruction and Development) in an active and vital way, and promote the discussion of difficult and crucial issues concerning the political situation in general.

2-The discussions reached an agreement on two papers, the first included the principles of the UIA and the other is on the rules of procedure. The Special Committee is approaching the end of the agreement and in the next few days will see the declaration of the points that were agreed upon by the parties.

3-Also, the withdrawing forces from the UIA, for example the Sader movement were the ongoing dialogues, and especially the to commission of the formulation of principles. This is a telling sign that the existence of the desire of everyone to be within UIA framework.

4-The intensification of contacts with political forces and personalities close to the UIA in order to find a mechanism for joining a UIA, and UIA will hold a meeting of major powers and most of these figures next coming days.

There are a few important facts and emphasize in this regard:

-That the United Iraqi Alliance has an urgent need at the present stage in the political arena to avoid any interfering and any attempt to weaken the domestic political process and to develop a sincere

and pure power to take its course in the next elections.

-Although ISCI is the first responsible for the restructuring of the UIA and the building must be that of the size of the responsibility entrusted to us and move away from the clouds to form a UIA.

-The current circumstances and the evolution of the political movement requires a broad new UIA and to be open to accommodate all the national trends and components, and not limited to a particular one.

-The need to reformulate the principles of the UIA, and its bylaws in accordance with the rich accumulated experience during the past four years since the UIA formation and utilization in the current stage.

### VP Mahdi: VP Biden's Message Is About U.S. Commitment To Iraq



Vice Presidents Mahdi and Alhashimi discussed, on Friday, July 3, 2009 with U.S. Vice President Joe Biden the bilateral relations between Iraq and the United States, in light of the agreements signed between the two countries, including the Conventions on strategic and security cooperation.

The joint meeting focused in particular on the mutual engagements between Baghdad and Washington to implement provisions of these agreements, especially after the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from Iraqi cities, in addition to other political issues in the forefront national reconciliation and the disputed areas.



Vice President Biden reiterated the U.S administration's commitment to its pledges to provide support and assistance to Iraq at all levels, especially in the areas of political, diplomatic, and economic. , cultural Healso welcomed the positive developments in the country.

Vice President Mahdi said in a press release following the meeting, Vice President Biden came to Iraq with a message that the United States of America is committed to Iraq with its obligations as set out the agreements signed between the two countries and it will continue to provide all possible support in the files of as many awards and file of the United Nations and Iraq out of Chapter Seven.

Vice President Mahdi said that Vice President Biden stressed that Washington would continue to provide support and advice to the Iraqi political forces to reach solutions to the issues that are still pending on. Also, he stressed that the United States does not want to interfere in Iraqi affairs, but encourages Iraqis to work together to resolve important issues for Iraq, and the withdrawal of American forces.

### ISCI And Da'wa Islamic Party Leaderships Hold Meeting



On June 18, 2009 the ISCI leadership headed by H.E. Ammar Alhakim, deputy of the ISCI leader and Dawa Islamic Party leadership, headed by Prime Minister Nouri Almaliki , held a meeting to discuss bolstering the national unity among the Iraqi parties.

In the meeting they discussed the bilateral relations and the best way to boost the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) for the interest of the political process. MP Hadi Alamiri, MP Redha Jawad Taki, MP Sheik Alsagher, Sheik Mohammad Almoula, MP Shiek Hamid Muala from ISCI, and MP Hassan Alsenad all attended the meeting.

### Sixth Commemoration of Ayatollah Alhakim



The special bureau of H.E. Alhakim, ISCI president and UIA leader held a celebration on the Sixth Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Ayatollah Muhammad Baker Alhakim, on June 27, 2009.

Senior Iraqi officials and prominent personalities attended the celebration, and at the forefront of them was the Iraqi President, Mr. Jalal Talabani, VP Mahdi, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, the Speaker of the Council of Representatives (CoR), Dr. Iyad al-Samarrai, the deputy of the Speaker, Mr. Aref Tayfur, in addition to a large number of Ministers, MPs , Ambassadors, military leaders, noble personalities and the educated elite and a large audience of citizens.



#### H.E. Ammar Alhakim:

H.E. Ammar Alhakim, deputy of the ISCI leader, delivered the speech of H.E. Alhakim: "All his energy and focus was exerted on the greatest project of all: saving the Iraqi people and building a new Iraq based on new principles, deriving legitimacy from the will of the Iraqi people and their free choices. These principles would have, in their essence, the values of justice and independence, placing all Iraqis equally in terms of citizenship, with equal

rights and benefits."

#### The President Jalal Talabani:

The President Jalal Talabani's speech at the celebration in which he referred to the vacuum left by the martyr Shaheed Almihrab in the advancement of the political process and the stabilization of the new Iraqi national project. Also, he said that the martyr Shaheed Almihrab was weaving threads of wisdom, laid down the rules of the substantive work to achieve the holy national objectives among his companions of ISCI, and in order to expand the political process to include all the components of the Iraqi people and factions, and to promote national reconciliation.

#### Prime Minister Nouri Almaliki:

Prime Minister Nuori Almaliki in his speech went over the life of the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab, his prolific works, contribution and development, and how he spent his youth with the religious authority in Najaf. PM Almaliki also said that the blood of the martyr Alhakim and the rest of the martyrs of Iraq will remain a strong motive and responsibility for the non-default of our duties and not to succumb to the criminals and terrorists, stressing the importance of hard work to achieve the principles and objectives of Shaheed Almihrab in accomplishing the national unity, cohesion and the Iraqi sovereignty.

#### Vice-President Adel Abdul Mahdi:

Vice-President Adel Abdul Mahdi said that the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab was a great man who sacrificed his life for the liberation of Iraq and the defense of its people in thought and deed. Also, he said Ayatollah Mohammad Baker Alhakim, had struggled to achieve the national project and build the new Iraq as a constitutional state with all its democratic institutions.

#### Speaker Iyad Samarrai:

Dr. Iyad Samarrai, Speaker of the CoR, mentioned in his speech to the history of the family of Alhakim, who runs with the history of the liberation of Iraqi jihad, of the enormous sacrifices and ownership of the majority of Muslims to a reference of Imam Alhakim. He confirmed that the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab had been opened up to everyone and all found him as a source of its national liberation thoughts. He also said that Ayatollah Alhakim is a message to all the Iraqi people to unite them and to strengthen the Iraqi unity.

#### Mr. Massoud Barzani:

Mr. Aref Tayfur, the Deputy Speaker,



gave a speech of Mr. Massoud Barzani, president of the Kurdistan region, in which the condolences of the Iraqi people and the religious authority in this painful anniversary, noting the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab. Underscoring the need for the presence of all the parties in the Iraqi people in the political process and achieve national goals and aspirations, Mr. Tayfurs said Alhakim's death was a loss for all, and promised to en route and approach his march. Mr. Barzani stated that the late Alhakim was one of the most prominent symbols of the national movement and the Islamic point of convergence of all the components of the Iraqi people.

**Dr. Ahmad Chalabi:**

Dr. Chalabi said that martyr of Shaheed Almihrab was a descendant of the Religious Authority and the freedom fighter and, an outstanding scholar, referring to the important role of the martyr on the collection of Iraqi opposition forces in the struggle and Jihad as well as its leadership role in advocacy to promote national unity and the success of the new national project.

**Dr. Ahmed Abdul-Ghafoor Alsamarrai:**

The President of the Sunni Endowment said that Alhakim was a tribute to the people of Iraq on this painful anniversary. The tragic and bloody death of the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab, stressed that the departure of Alhakim at a critical juncture in the history of Iraq was a massive loss for Iraqis.

**Bishop Oken Hormuz David:**

Bishop Oken Hormuz David, the representative of the Christian community, stressed on the painful moment of death of the martyr of Shaheed Almihrab and of the terms produced by sadness and pain is the same moment, which was a strong impetus towards the determination to achieve the goals and aspirations of the martyr about unity and the rejection of violence and sectarianism and to consider the direction of the future with optimism and hope.

## Executive Council Holds Meeting



The Iraqi Executive Council (Presidency Council and Prime Minister) held a meeting on June 15, 2009 to discuss bolstering the democracy and the National Unity Government.

President Talabani, Vice President Adil Abdul-Mahdi and Prime Minister Nouri Almaliki attended the meeting, and they discussed the current developments in the country and particularly the political and security files.

In a joint press conference held after the meeting, President Talabani said that the meeting was held in a positive atmosphere and was a convergence of views on the need for joint action to support the government led by Nouri al-Maliki and the need to implement the program and work to alleviate the spasms and tensions in the country and that the three branches of government, the legislative, the executive and judicial through cooperation and coordination among them can achieve this. President Talabani also said that he has agreed to increase the effectiveness of the political council for national security and "to create the right atmosphere in the country to promote the defense of the prevailing situation and the democratic process and stand in the government and the challenges that we face." And on the importance of receiving the security file, President Talabani said that the government is able to receive the security file, and it will be a historic day when the Iraqi people receive the security of their country and that it plays a part in the complete sovereignty of Iraq.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said that they discussed various issues of state-building, acting and constitutionally valid, adding that they discussed how to meet the challenges and developments and to find the appropriate environment and atmosphere between all partners and parties in the political process for the benefit of Iraq and its citizens.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the content of his meeting with Grand Ayatollah Ali Al-Sistani, and he stressed that Grand Ayatollah Ali Al-Sistani showed high interest in helping to overcome the many political twists and turns through which the serious political process, and Maliki said, "His Eminence cared greatly and expressed his views on the issues of concern to the country, including the issue of differences and the next election and

receive the security file."

With regard to the subject of the receipt of the security file, the Prime Minister expressed his full confidence in the ability of the security services to receive the security file, confirming that the capacity of these agencies have developed in quality and numbers and that the forces have gained good experience. Maliki commenting on the importance of the day when our forces receive security file, which he described as the holy day, pointing out that the thirtieth day of June, "reminds us of the twenty-revolution, which has a glorious history of the Iraqi people," saying it gives an indication of a message and an extended (30) June (1920) to (30) June (2009).

Vice President Dr. Adel Abdul Mahdi said that the importance of encouraging an atmosphere that prevailed during the recent meeting of the Political Council for National Security needs to continue and that with the existence of this positive atmosphere, we are confident of our ability to defend our country against terrorism and sabotage.

## H.E. Ammar Alhakim Receives Deputy PM



H.E. Ammar Alhakim, deputy of the ISCI leader, received Mr. Barham Saleh, deputy Prime Minister, on June 30, 2009, in the special bureau of H.E. Alhakim, ISCI president and UIA leader.

They discussed the latest political developments and security in the Iraqi arena and the efforts of the various political forces to support the government of national unity and maintaining the security and sovereignty of Iraq after the withdrawal of foreign troops from the cities and the hand over security control to Iraqi forces.

Also, during the meeting, they both stressed on the importance of continuous communication between the national political forces to unite the visions and common positions for the progress of the



political process in the country and the promotion of a national consensus.

### **Vice President Mahdi Receives French Prime Minister**



Vice President Mahdi Received, in his office in Baghdad Thursday, July 2, 2009, French Prime Minister Francois Vion and the accompanied delegation.

During the meeting, which was attended by Finance Minister Bayan Jaber, Minister of Science and Technology Raed Fahmi Amin Sabir Al-Issawi, and a number of the VP's Adviser, they discussed ways to develop bilateral relations between Baghdad and Paris, and to strengthen mutual cooperation at various levels, especially in the fields of politics, security and economic.

The VP, in a news briefing following the meeting, renewal the Iraq's desire to develop relations with the international community, particularly with France and the opening of the prospects for future cooperation with them, noting in this regard to the agreements signed between Iraq and France. He mentioned also to the first bid rounds for oil contracts and what has been achieved so far, and the signing of a contract for the development of the Rumaila fields in southern Iraq.

The VP called on the French side, to provide more support for Iraq and assist in the eradication of the terrorist gangs that target innocent civilians, and the need for joint action to transfer the file to the level of terrorism, war crimes and crimes against humanity in order to ensure the punishment of the perpetrators and those who sponsor and protect them. He hoped that France, through its position as a permanent member of UN Security Council, would move this file to become an international issue.

### **Sheikh Hamoudi Visits Former PM Aljaffari**



Sheikh Homam Hamoudi head of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Council of Representatives (CoR) and Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, visited former Prime Minister Ibrahim Aljaffari at his office on July 9, 2009.

During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments on the Iraqi political arena, including security and economic situations, and ways to pay the political process forward in the service of the Iraqi people. They also discussed the efforts to restructure the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) and the ongoing dialogue aimed to expanding it to contain largest number of entities and competencies that contribute to the building the new Iraq.

### **Sheikh Hamoudi Visits Vice President Alhashimi**



Sheikh Homam Hamoudi, head of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Council of Representatives (CoR) and Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, visited Vice President Tariq Alhashimi at his office on July 9, 2009.

During the meeting, they discussed the issue of constitutional amendments and what the Committee has accomplished so far of the amendments which were accepted unanimously by the leaders of political entities. Also, they discussed the materials that still existed around the dispute. Vice President Alhashimi mentioned in this area his willingness for dialogue with the leaders

of political entities in order to persuade them on the usefulness and importance of taking the proposed amendments for the interests of the Iraqi people.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Vice President Alhashimi praised the efforts of the Committee and thanked the Chairman for the great achievements made so far and wished them success.

### **Sheikh Hamoudi Meets Prime Minister Almaliki**

Sheikh Hamoudi, the ISCI senior member and the Chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Relations Committee, visited Prime Minister Nouri Almaliki on June 21, 2009 in his official office.

Sheikh Hamoudi, who is in charge to activate and expand the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA), discussed with Prime Minister Almaliki, the latest security and political developments. Also, they discussed the ways to expand and activate the UIA. They confirmed their adherence to activate the UIA and the need to preserve its achievements.

On other hand Sheikh. Hamoudi condemned the recent bombings in Kirkuk and expressed deep regret and sadness, calling for caution at this stage in particular, and the need to go forward in our constitutional and democracy project.

### **Finance Minister Receives Dr. Osama Altikriti**

Finance Minister Baker Jaber Alzubaidi received Dr. Osama Altikriti, the Secretary-General of the Iraqi Islamic Party (IIP), on June 22, 2009. Mr. Nasser Alani, the presidency Chief of Staff, attended the meeting. During the meeting, they reviewed the political situation in Iraq and efforts to advance by the Iraqi economy in all areas and urban renaissance, including the Iraqi provinces that have suffered deprivation over the past decades.

The Finance Minister stressed that the ministry is keen to support the ministries and all Iraqi provinces within the investment budget for 2009 in addition to activating the role of investment in projects and to invite the governors to make efforts to attract Arab and International companies to implement strategic projects in the provinces, especially in revitalizing the tourism sector, the energy sector, transport



and the establishment of housing units.

As the ministry through the department of Real Estate seriously allocate land to investors in the construction of residential complexes and hotels, for the purpose of promoting physical and economic reality and tourism in the provinces.

The Finance Minister also noted that the present period is witnessing the discharge of significant services to the ministry, especially the banking sector which has witnessed a quantum leap in access to the world of banking services, customs and insurance development.

Dr. Altikriti praised the efforts of the Ministry of Finance saying concern was higher for Iraq's unity and concerted efforts for the advancement of his good people and the fact of economic and physical well-being of the Iraqi people.

### **Finance Minister Alzubaidi: We Will Finish the Debt File**

Minister Alzubaidi announced on June 16, 2009, that Iraq paid another due payment to the Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation and Export Credit in Kuwait. The Minister also said that the Finance Ministry is seeking to end the debt file with the countries or companies, and that the payments due for the foundations and organizations that Iraq is a part of.

The Minister added that he had received a letter from the Director-General of the Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation and Export Credit, thanking him for the follow-up to the Finance Ministry to put an end to the debt of the institution, stressing the corporation to provide technical support and administrative cadres in Iraq through their participation in training courses will be assessed by Corporation in the field of development, investment and banking.

### **Finance Minister Alzubaidi Receives Italian Ambassador**



Minister Alzubaidi received in his official office Mr. Marezo Melanie the Italian Ambassador to Iraq on July 9, 2009.

They also discussed economic and financial relations between the two countries and the possibility of the contribution of Italian companies in the reconstruction of Iraq. They also discussed the use of the Italian part of the loan to finance some of the facilitator in the field of transport projects for the development of infrastructure for this sector.

Minister Alzubaidi stressed the Iraqi government's keenness to develop relations with Italy in all areas, especially to take advantage of advanced Italian agricultural mechanization, which would contribute significantly to the advancement of agriculture in Iraq.

### **Questioning Ministers**

When the Iraqi Council of Representatives (CoR) has witnessed the famous questioning and the first of its kind of the Minister for Trade, has emerged in the case of a transformation process in the CoR through the activation of a regulatory role, which was non-existent or muted in the custody of former speaker Dr. Almashhadani and the state of the interaction of citizens with their representatives to fight and eliminate corruption has been pushed into the foray. There are two visions to the interrogation of Minister for Trade:

First: says that the financial and administrative corruption in state institutions has become more prevalent and can not be tolerated and not from the legitimate national and human perspective. Stealing hundreds of millions of dollars from the funds of the Iraqi people and its food must be held accountable wherever they are spoilers in positions of responsibility and punishment with the most severe penalties for what they have committed.

The CoR is the first to hold on to the spoilers with its regulatory function provided by the Constitution, and it is necessary to activate this role, and the interrogation must not exclude any corruptors or one that favors the credibility of the UIA or the government or the entire political process.

Second: Saying that the interrogation that took place of the Minister for Trade is a series of conspiracies against the Iraqi government and the political process and enemy countries are involved in this

matter, and supportive of those who raise the banner of fighting corruption.

The aim of the interrogation is to topple the Shi'ite ministers in the public eye and show them they are corrupt and thieves of the people's money and failed to steer the country, especially when the respondents of the known positions of the Islamist movement. More than that, this way of addressing this form of corruption and the interrogation will fire all the ministries and governmental institutions and even CoR and other government bodies and in turn will turn Iraq into shambles, and they seek to stop this situation and look for another way to recover the corruption. Not in the way that took place with the Minister of Trade.

The Shaheed Almihrab movement holds a vision of the effect between the two views in the following points:

- 1-That the interrogation should be within the rule and law regulations.
- 2-That the questioning should be away from any politicization.
- 3-Shouldn't targeting one component but should apply to everyone.
- 4-Non-duplication of rule of law standards.
- 5-To move away from defamation and insult.
- 6-Not to compromise with the corruptors and bring them through specialized committees or through the judicial apparatus and anticorruption committee.

### **Deteriorating Security Situation**

Escalated security breaches in the past few days is remarkable to consider. Whether at the level of assassinations, as was the case of the martyr Sheikh Harith Alobeidi, head of the Accordance Front bloc in the Council of Representatives (CoR) and the Imam of Shawwaf mosque, and one of the prominent moderates, and others as well as the appalling crimes in Batha, Taza, Sadr City and other places, killing hundreds of martyrs and more than 1000 Wounded, mostly children and women, old people and the destruction of hundreds of houses and shops in some of the worst massacres in Iraq. In this regard, we stress the following points:

- 1-This deterioration of security is a clear message at this time witnessed after the



withdrawal of U.S. troops from cities to their bases, which is a turning point in the process of strengthening the national sovereignty and the strengthening of the credibility of the Iraqi government. In the case of the extension of the security file out almost the whole of this letter that this withdrawal a new victory for the political process.

2-These criminal operations that target innocent people who gather in the market, and neighborhoods that are popular and easy, and the penetration of the operational side, which confirms the failure of the terrorists in operations against the quality of centers or other government security and emphasizes the ability and the strength of the security services to protect state institutions from terrorist attacks.

3-As well as targeting areas that would provide the Shiites to react and restore the hateful atmosphere of sectarian sedition and civil war.

4-This gives the impression of security breaches and should give the government the motivation to review the security performance of the security services of responsibility and address the weaknesses and imbalances such as:

A-Building a strong intelligence effort, organized and responsive to the evolving requirements of defeat terrorism.

B-Influence of the Baathist in the security agencies in the ministries of defense and interior confusing security performance significantly.

C-Involving the masses of people and all citizens in the process of security and cooperation with the competent authorities will give the proper outcomes.

5-There terrorist operations look to disrupt and weaken the Iraqi resolve prior to the upcoming elections. This is not only an attack on the government of Iraq but also the hearts and the minds of Iraq's citizens.

## Spain's El Mundo Interviews H.E. Ammar Alhakim

Spain's El Mundo newspaper conducted a comprehensive dialogue with H.E. Ammar Alhakim in Baghdad on July 1st, 2009. Below is the entire interview text.

Question: We would like to know your opinion on the political situation in Iraq after the withdrawal of U.S. troops?



H.E. Ammar Alhakim: The happiness that overwhelmed the Iraqi people due to the significant break with the foreign forces from Iraqi cities, there has been a two messages, the first one is that of a peaceful and political resistance that we have adopted was feasible and achieved these great results, and the second message is that the task of our security forces are now capable of maintaining security within the city and can dispense with the foreign forces, the less foreign military presence as the Iraqis feel more communication and strengthen the partnership among themselves and rely on themselves more and more, and so the building of the new Iraqi experience.

Q: You have mentioned to the political and peaceful resistance, but through my meetings with people indicated that the Americans withdrew as a result of material and human losses, what do you say?

H.E.: Americans have borne the burden and the damage in the past years spent here, but I think that the withdrawal came against the backdrop of a political agreement between the Iraqi government and the U.S. government as losses could be higher, as in Afghanistan, but they have not withdrawn, as is the case in Iraq, and this confirms that the measures policy was adopted has an important role in the steps that we are witnessing.

Q: After all that has happened in Iraq, the destruction, the losses, do you think that the sacrifices made by Iraqis were meaningful?

H.E.: We certainly feel we have a big project, we have achieved freedom, pride and dignity of the Iraqis, to return the resolution to the will of the Iraqis through the ballot box, this project was able to establish democracy which is one of the

few Democratic counterparts in the region and these achievements Iraqis had dreamed of them in the past, today we find Six years after the establishment of 40 satellite TV channels and dozens of local radio and hundreds of newspapers and magazines talk freely in Iraq, this freedom and gain is a blessing and there continues to be a large number of people in the region missing it, and we now make significant progress in services and construction in our country, in the first license to oil contracts and the recent Iraqi oil production will double to 100%, which will provide significant opportunities for the Iraqis to take off.

We have a long list of the offers concerning Iraq's oil doubling production, Iraq has the largest oil reserves in the world, a country of civilization and the vast potential and wealth, and when we are through building our country, we want to make partnerships and interests with various countries of the world.

Q: If you knew all these events will be held in Iraq, you will support the U.S. invasion of Iraq?

H.E.: We never supported the U.S. invasion of Iraq, we did not believe that the use of foreign troops is the right way for the achievements of our country, we believe that the Iraqi people must be a key element in the process of change and we drafted a government in exile before the fall of the regime so as not to see the vacuum in the administration of the country and the Iraqis are the bearers of the project, but those observations and achievements of the Iraqis were something and we have done something else, and we believe that the role of the Iraqi people in achieving these accomplishments during the past six years.

Q: Some ask why the Americans leave their places within the city and why not just leave the country as a whole?

H.E.: Indeed the aspiration for the Iraqis to find their country free of foreign forces as soon as possible, but this process requires a state of progression, according to what the experts mentioned and military and security commanders in our country.

Q: There has been an increase in attacks and bombings in the past few months, what does this mean, is it a reversal of the violence which has been witnessed in 2006?



H.E.: We hold Saddam's Baath primarily responsible in such processes and we believe it was a clear message to the invalidity of the alleged resistance to the occupier; this fact makes it imperative for each who bears his weapons to give up, and especially with the troops out of cities now. We know that the main aim is to return Iraq to square one, but this can not be achieved, they want this work to withdraw an important card from the political process because it had achieved security in Iraq, but our confidence is in a great God and our confidence in the capabilities of our security and the military government.

Q: What is the theory or vision that ISCI believes in of the composition of the country, whether it is the theory of religious or secular, or what?

H.E.: We believe that ISCI has had a pivotal role in determining the parameters of governance in Iraq through the Iraqi constitution, where we look to civilian rule respects the Islamic identity of the majority of the Iraqi people also respect the religious and other minorities in the country.

Q: So you do not like a system similar to the regime in Iran?

H.E.: Certainly we believe that conditions in Iraq are different than Iran and the circumstances of each country are unlike as well.

Q: In the past, I look at your father's statements, he was supporting autonomy in the south, do you still support it?

H.E.: A federal system is not my father's call or ISCI's, but is a real fact in the constitution, which the constitution is the right of the Iraqi people and the Iraqis would meet the right or not, we are with our people in any option chosen.

Q: But as a party you are supporting the idea of federalism in the south?

H.E.: We support the Iraqi constitution, all the contents and I think that the political forces of all countries to support the constitutional concepts?

Q: How does ISCI look to govern?

H.E.: Constitution is that all the governorates or more, could be a region, where the idea of forming a provincial group of people involved in culture, deprivation, aspirations and religion, so was the perception of

ISCI in the southern regions that are involved in a unified culture that can be eligible to participate in one region, it is simply a proposal to the Iraqi people and what they choose, but we stress that the regions are based on the geographical and administrative rather than on the basis of sectarian or ethnic.

Q: Does this mean that the sharing powers of oil wealth, taxes and other things?

H.E.: In the constitution we made the management of the national wealth of oil for the Federal Government and not in the hands of the provinces or regions and this is a clear message of our unity of Iraq, if we look to partisan interests to do all we can do the most managed systems make the federal wealth belong to the provinces, because everyone knows that oil wealth is located in the southern regions, but we considered the property of all Iraqis alike.

Q: In the last election, ISCI received less votes than in previous elections, what reason do you think?

H.E.: First, I must mention that we are proud that we have a real democracy, and the parties may be lose or win, secondly, it must be pointed out that ISCI won as the first as it ran alone in the political elections, the first was in addition to a government cover, it was within a coalition of multinational forces, and not a political one. An important point that is often overlooked is that ISCI, which is not a single drop in the elections, all the forces that were resisting in the province of the location given to others, Kurds in Mosul, the Iraq Islamic Party in Anbar, the Dawa Party in Karbala, the Sadrists in Amara, Fadelah Party in Basra, then do not find any exception anywhere else.

This confirms the fact that people have had more expectations of the capacity of provincial councils, the governors could not achieve all requirements, and there were some of the mistakes that we diagnosed them accurately and we are now addressing the mistakes, ISCI is returning back to that interface, I hope you noticed the millions who marched in the remembrance of the martyrdom of the Late Ayatollah Alhakim in Baghdad and in the current security circumstances which we have talked about, ISCI has exceeded the difficulties faced in the past few months.

Q: What is your stand on the presence of Kurdish troops in parts of Mosul and Khanaqin, and others, do you deem something acceptable?

H.E.: First, we always consider the spirit of the Iraqi constitution, to resolve any problem in Iraq, correct the mistake or attitudes as compatibility with the Constitution. Secondly, we think that dialogue is the right solution to address the problems and not to take hostile attitudes. Thirdly we believe that democracy, which we adopt today, is a compromised democracy takes into account the concerns of all parties in Iraq. On these three principles define our position on any contentious points.

Q: What is your opinion about the annexation of Kirkuk to Kurdistan?

H.E.: We believe that Kirkuk, is a microcosm of Iraq which contains all Iraqi components with their complexities and sensitivities, and must take care of these complications in any position we take, we have to take into account the specificity of Kirkuk, in fact, we believe that article 140 of the Constitution and the vision developed to reach the desire of the people and the demands of dealing with this region.

Q: What are the problems that may arise from the Awakening groups, which supported the government while they were opposed the government?

H.E.: There are elements of a national heart in love with Iraq, and today we are working hard to build a new reality and harmony with the political process and we believe the people of Iraq and part of political reality, and there are some others who hold on to ideas from the past, and they used joining awakening groups to cover up their hostile agenda to the new regime. We believe that if they did not change their attitudes their presence with carrying weapons become a serious threat to the future of new Iraq.

Q: Do you think that the government force can impose the rule of law in places where there are men from awakening groups who don't pay attention to the presence of the Government?

H.E.: As I said the first part of the reality we believe that they are from the Iraqi security troops, but if it was the desire of one to rebel, it is natural for the government to stop the insurgency, as do all governments in the world with the rebels



Q: Should you have them in the police and security forces?

H.E.: For the first group yes, in the security services and civil institutions of each according to its competence

Q: What is the status of the restructuring of the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA), are there still efforts being made to make this happen?

H.E.: We make great efforts to make this happen, but the political atmosphere has changed, some of the parties are open to each other, which allowing the parties to join other alliances, we believe that the presence of large coalitions to facilitate the task of forming the government in the coming stage and help the people of the greater cohesion, the people not familiar with political differences and competition which sometimes turn to personal differences or frictions lead to clashes between the followers of these bases of power, or popular at the time we are in dire need of greater cohesion and political stability.

Q: You pointed to the need for large coalitions, will these alliances be based on sectarian lines?

H.E.: As we said in connection with the Alliance, we are moving beyond one's wish to be in competition between the political programs, not between sects and ethnic groups.

Q: What do you think of the U.S. charges of Iranian support for armed militia in Iraq?

H.E.: We depend on our assessment of Iraq's security in such matters and things, always to listen to the mutual accusations between Iran and America since the 30 years before our experience was born and the new political system in Iraq, we know that the problem between the two countries is larger than the size of Iraq and do not want to be a part of the problems between the two countries, we are looking for good relations with both countries for our national interests.

Q: Is it possible to affect one way or another, what is taking place far from the crisis in Iran on the situation in Iraq?

H.E.: The stability of any country in the region affects the stability of other countries in the region, and vice versa, when Iraq was living with difficult security conditions

it was a concern for the countries of the region, and we will be concerned in Iraq, when some turbulences in Iran or any of the countries in the region.

Q: Do you have particular view to this crisis; do you think the Western media has played a role in the exaggeration of what is happening there?

H.E.: We prefer not to interfere in the internal affairs of Iran and other nations of the world and we hope that no one interfere in our internal affairs as well. I am a viewer of news bulletins, I find that there exist anti-riot forces in all countries, and sometimes get lost between a sports team losing their fans burned break the windows of cars and shops, then riot police deal with such issues, what happened in Iran, from the standpoint of the Iranian media, but to meet the rioters, and not oppose a peaceful way of what we hear from Western media, it is the suppression of peaceful demonstrators, it is not easy to judge only when present and a resident of the reality.

Q: Mr. Hadi Alamiri said that Saudi Arabia through the airing of thought and ideology that it is responsible for the bombings in Iraq, PM. Nouri Almaliki also said that the Arab countries did not condemn the terrorist attacks, what do you think such a view?

H.E.: With respect to Mr. Alamiri, I think it was not criticizing the Saudi government, but directly to the Saudi citizens who engage in terrorist operations inside Iraq, and mentioned the existence of non-governmental organizations supporting terrorism in Iraq and Saudi religious leaders in some important locations in the centers of religious issued fatwas (decrees) disbelieve some components of Iraq, we believe that the government has the impact in their countries and can prevent such opinions and to crush such organizations that finance terrorism and to prosecute suspects involved in terrorist operations.

Q: You are referring to the advisory decree of the Mufti (Jurist) of Mecca?

H.E.: There are many decrees issued by the Saudi muftis (Jurists) there might be one of them issued by Sheikh Kalbani the Mufti (Jurist) of Mecca, when the young man worship to God by killing himself and killing innocent people, this means that it is based on religious premises.

Q: How can we explain to the world that there are people who issue fatwas (Decrees) inciting hatred, and do not represent true Islam?

H.E.: By the reading of Islam one knows that the real Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance, and the monotheistic religions came to make human life better, how can the divine religion to shatter human life, this is inconsistency with logic and with the legitimate texts available to us from Islam.

## Der Spiegel Interviews H.E. Ammar Alhakim



Germany's Der Spiegel magazine conducted a comprehensive interview with H.E. Ammar Alhakim in Baghdad on June 28, 2009. Below is the entire text.

Question: Do you still think security is the biggest issue in Iraq, or do you now see other issues taking greater importance?

H.E. Ammar Alhakim: The Security problem is one problem which Iraq has been going thru, which is affected by political constraints, for a number of the region's nations have growing concerns and fears regarding the Iraqi experiment and the changes taking place therein, leading them to turning their eyes away from the terrorist groups within the country. At the same time, we believe that there is a noticeable improvement in the security over the past few months, and that it is still sensitive and needs further strengthening.

Security was the main priority, but today it is one among a number of priorities. Now we can also focusing on social services, and on international and regional relations, and other political considerations which also have importance. We believe that resolving these issues, such as high unemployment, delivering social services, and improving relations with other countries, will in turn affect the security and make it better. There is also much attention paid to another focus which is intra-congruence among



the constituents of the country. We do not name it "reconciliation", for reconciliation is between two enemies, but this is rather intra-congruence and heightened harmony.

Q: Your renaming of your organization as "Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq" (ISCI) has led some in the West to wonder if this is a religious organization. Do you have any worries concerning the return of the Islamists to Iraq?

H.E.: It must be pointed out that this view is due to the fact that the leaders of the ISCI are men of religion, but when we actually look at the political structure and aims and projects and ties of the Supreme Council, we will see that it does not form any specific religious entity. It is enough to ask in the street, which organization has the best ties with the different religious factions in Iraq, and the answer will be ISCI, which proves that it is a national project.

Q: There is also a view in the West that Iraq is now leaning towards globalization, what do you say?

H.E.: What we see plainly is a strong desire among the people to maintain an Islamic and strong national identity, and this is what we saw evident during the past elections, when over 80% of the seats became occupied by those who saw their ties to the religion as important.

Q: Can we group Da'awa Group to those?

H.E.: Its formal name is the Islamic Da'awa group, and it is one of the deepest rooted Islamic Iraqi groups. As for opinions here and there, which see one group as Islamic and another as un-Islamic then they have a right to think so, but what will they then say about 13 million pilgrims who -directly after the elections- travelled hundreds of kilometers to visit and make a pilgrimage to Imam Husayn?

Q: There is still an impression in the West that the prime minister is attempting to appear that he is not a man of religion, so how do you judge his political performance?

H.E.: We differentiate between the political project, which speaks for the whole nation, and between the personal religiosity of this or that person.

Q: In the West the belief that religion is a private affair, so would you agree in the separation of religion and politics?

H.E.: Islam is a religion which leaves its imprints upon the social structure, and provides guidance on social interaction. At the same time, we were intent when drafting the constitution on emphasizing that the political structure of Iraq is a secular organization which respects its Islamic identity. This is to the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, which incidentally had many members involved in the drafting of the constitution.

Q: Have you met with any of the two competitors for the Iranian presidency, Ahmadinejad or Moussavi?

H.E.: I met Ahmadinejad when he came for a visit to Iraq as president of Iran, just as I also went for a visit to Iran and met with him; as for Mirhussain Moussavi, he has not yet had any political importance so I have not met him.

Q: Your family has a prominent role in the politics of the country, and has strong ties with both Iran and Washington, how do you see the tie between these two powers?

H.E.: Rather than talking about family relations, we believe that these relations are built upon our valuing of the Iraqi national interests, and it is always in Iraq's interests to have strong ties with the neighboring countries as well as the international community, and this is what justifies these ties (to Iran and Washington) in the past as well as the future.

Q: Do you like president Obama?

H.E.: I look with respect to his views and opinions, and I followed his speech to the Arab and Muslim world, and saw many good thoughts, and I believe the American administration is on the touchstone if it turns these thoughts into actions.

Q: Do you think president Obama has sufficient opportunity to rebuild the bridges between the East and the West after 9/11, during his stay in office.

H.E.: His views grant him the opportunity, but this depends on how cooperative his administration is with him.

Q: During Obama's speech, it seemed he did not specifically address the Shiites, did you also notice that?

H.E.: I listened to the speech, and he spoke on the importance of rising above the conflicts and strife, and according to what

I heard he did refer to the Sunni-Shiite conflict.

Q: Would you have liked him to come to Najaf and not Azhar to give his speech?

H.E.: He gave the speech in Cairo University and not in Azhar, and we would welcome him to come to Baghdad University to give another speech.

Q: Moving to Germany, you stated the importance of investing in Iraq and more services, what is your view on Germany and would you accept German organizations investing in rebuilding Iraq?

H.E.: Of course, and this was one of the main reasons for my visit to Germany, and Germany is a pivotal nation and has a strong technology and long experience, just as it has prior relations with Iraq's infrastructure.

Q: This means that you welcome German companies to Iraq?

H.E.: I had a meeting with businessmen and entrepreneurs of some German companies, and tried to convince them that the ground is fertile in Iraq for investment.

Q: Seeing as how you have some experience in business (as I heard), what is your take on the world market and the price of oil?

H.E.: Unfortunately, what you have heard is incorrect, and I do not have much experience in this field, nor have I studied or practiced economy. At the same time, as someone who is interested in his country's future, I believe that economic activity has a great effect on the political improvement of the country.

Q: According to what is said, your organization has always had a strong desire to build a special region in the South, do you still aid this desire?

H.E.: It is not the Supreme Council which encourages this, but the Iraqi constitution has given the populace the right to form provinces, and the Supreme Council was more vocal than other organizations in revealing this right to the people. Now it is up to the people to see if they desire to use this right and form their territories and provinces or not.

Q: Along the same lines, do you think that the idea of a federal government is still strongly encouraged, or do you think it is



becoming less and less and giving away to the idea of a central government in the country?

H.E.: In the recent period, and especially after witnessing some of the mistakes made by the Kurdistan region, many have re-examined their attachment to the federalist idea, and adding to this is the great confusion about this topic in the Iraqi and Arab media.

Q: It appears that in the current moment there are two camps, one of the Sunni countries ( Saudi Arabia and others), and one represented by Iran and Hezbollah -as the West sees it- and that these two camps are fighting over Iraq and bringing Iraq to their side. The question here is, to which will Iraq attach to in the end?

H.E.: Iraq will stand with its interests, and it is not in the interests of Iraq to take a side on the politics of the region. We wish to be friends with all regional and Arab countries, to which we feel a bond of Arab kinship. Syria is an Arab country as well, and on the other side we have Turkey and Iran, which are two Islamic countries with which we have deep historical ties.

War has not given us anything but destruction and millions of lives lost, and the regression seen in Iraq even though it owns the second largest oil reserves. The new political structure of Iraq wants to live in harmony and improvement, and does not desire further wars and conflicts.

### Elaph Interviews Vice President Mahdi



VP Mahdi conducts a broad dialogue with the Arabic Online Newspaper Elaph on July 8, 2009.

Question: How do you see the coming parliamentary elections?

VP Mahdi: Much will depend on the alliances which have not been finalized as of yet.

Q: After the low popularity of political Islam in Iraq, and depending on the results of provincial elections - How do you see the future of political parties on the Iraqi political arena?

VP: Popularity declined in the provincial elections for all, whether Muslim or non-Muslim parties. The total forces of the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) ISCI, Dawa, Reform Movement, Sadrist, Fadhila and independents did not get more than 2.5 million votes received out of the 5 million votes in the legislative elections, or the previous council elections.

Allawi, lost ground as well as in the previous elections, and same for Saleh Almutlak and the Communist Party and other forces.

Q: Do you think that the parliamentary elections will be surprises, as in the provincial elections. Will it be a happy surprise for the benefit of the Iraqi citizens?

VP: Any fair and transparent elections should make people happy even though it may anger some parties and forces. If there are no broad coalitions, there will be surprises and changes in the political map. It also depends on the electoral system and the intervention of the state or other powerful powers. But if there are expanded coalitions - as in the past - I think those coalitions will bring most of the seats.

Q: What is the political reform document? What are its terms? And as you are the one who formed it and you have called the political parties to act in accordance with its provisions, has the political reform document been activated?

VP: No, it has not been activated yet. As for the political reform document, it is a series of demands made by various political forces working to resolve the pending issues and constitutional amendments and the file of prisoners, debathification and the presence of foreign troops and all the solutions depend on the constitution. The document was discussed during the Withdrawal of Troops Agreement was a tacit approval by the political forces.

It was approved by the Council of Representatives (CoR) and published in the Official Gazette.

Q: What is the fate of the UIA?

VP: Either there will be one UIA or two alliances or more. There is serious research

and hard work to reach one UIA and in the national scene in general

Q: How are your relations with the Sadrists?

VP: In terms of my view, they are very good and you have to ask the Sadrists. We have ongoing meetings and a good understanding between us and there is a development in the relations among all parties. I believe that everyone learns from past experiences and consider the awareness of and greater responsibility for the future.

Q: How are your relations with Sunni and secular parties such as Dr. Iyad Allawi.

Our relations are good. Whether we agree with each other or disagree, we always work together and continue our relationship and its increased confidence, maturity and depth.

First let me clarify two points for the Shiites, Sunnis, and the second regarding the Islamic and secular. With respect to the first one it is not necessary to say or not say I am a Sunni or a Shiite, it is important to not be dealing with this issue as if it does not exist.

This has been in existence for hundreds of years. It exists in other countries, and always we have heard, this is a Catholic and this is a Protestant, and this is a Christian and this is a Jew.

I think the fallacy to say that man is not defending his doctrine or religion, and abuse who wants to follow the mandate of an Islamic school believed to be closer to god and religion. It is also important to discuss these issues with respect and in accordance with the principle that you love to your brother as you love to yourself. Not accusing each other of being infidels and increasing tensions.

We should not live in hypocrisy in this matter, we shouldn't praise or appease each other publicly, then put the plans for the skepticism, fear and cancel each other secretly. As well as the issue of capacity and potential sites, the majority of the Shiites do not give them the absolute right in govern Iraq.

Sunnis are also a huge part of the population, and they are a majority of Muslims in other locations. In the end, the case must be, provided by the kind of citizenship, regardless of affiliation, and it is important to protect our constitution and our work for the formation of political majorities and



minorities of the same spectrum.

I think secularism is stuck in the battle in Iraq. Iraq is a Muslim country. We do not have atheist movements as in Europe. What we have is a link between the positions of religion and politics, and others making gap between them.

I do not know, secular in Iraq, denies himself to be a Muslim or Christian, or claims to be hostile to religion. Yes, there are those who refuse the interference of clerics in politics. That is their right to do so. There are clerics refusing to intervene in politics and they certainly can not be described as secularists.

There are seculars who have established the most religiously extreme government, we mean that the state of Israel. Equation is not between religious and secular, but between those who believe that the people are the source of power and the beliefs in selection of government and the power of the people.

Q: How do you evaluate the performance of the current government and what it provided to the citizens of Iraq?

VP: We must not underestimate what has been achieved in Iraq. We do not want to talk about the Constitution and the freedoms and openness, and out of the equations and the improvement of the deadly level of living, the question is justified as the level of services is still far less than expected. It seems as if some things went down for the last period.

There are two interrelated explanations. When turning the balance of power on the former system, the dynamics of the new system is not immediate. Factors of continuity in the former regime to be more effective than those that have not generated yet been integrated in the new system, and this is what happened in Iraq. But this is what happened in Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution, after the collapse of the Soviet regime. What happened in Iran and France, as well as in the rest of the cases? The beginnings are generally slow or even rearward until the start of the dynamics of change.

The second interpretation, the forces of the new situation have not yet succeeded in building a theory of work. But many of them still carry the old values and principles, awareness of it or not. Also, the new blood has not yet found the time or the conditions in the area to fill positions of responsibility.

Did not absorb the principles reflected in the advance awareness of the small elite summarizing the experience of the past and I understand the position of the country and was the author of the constitutional form of a mature and guiding philosophy of the new provision.

If we agree that the foregoing is true and realistic understanding of what we have, that explains the damage and the stagnation experienced by the government. The government needs at least four steps to be able to proceed to the interests of real citizens.

First we need the philosophy of a unified decision of all the institutions legislative and executive officials, centralists and decentralist, but in many cases, between the forces of a single institution. This continues to be to block and defend it until the conflict between the forces of change not to mention the old powers, which still has the presence of a field.

The second point is that the Government needs to identify who is making the decision. Is it the minister or Prime Minister or the Presidency Council or Council of Representatives or the local or federal authority ... Etc.? There is overlap and lack of understanding of the limits and possibilities of any responsibility. Either there is an extended authority or undue delay.

Thirdly, the Government needs to implement the possibilities of the decision such as money, security, expertise, efficient and traditions of professional work allow the completion of good works.

Finally, there needs to be good file management a good follow-up and streamline the organization and availability of factors at the time and place suitable to serve each other not for the collision, one of the other.

The above is all a big title. As for the bigger title, which would not be possible without the reform of the situation, and we will not be able to build a government and the state of adults able to play its active role and the right is the country's relations with the community.

Unless we return the vitality to the community and its government to be a force of the power of the people and society, the reform remains just dreams. Ability, work and real achievement is the beginning of things, people, society and the state outcome to return then the power

to the people to encourage rational and support. The start is from the people and to the people and not vice versa.

Q: If you are elected as prime minister of Iraq in the coming parliamentary elections what would be your political program?

VP: My program is to diagnose problems and develop appropriate solutions and modes of implementation. For each file there is a problem that must be managed properly. File management is important, which is absent in most of the time in the life of Iraq.

Last time when I was a candidate for this position next to Dr. Jaafari, I had visions and programs and documents on how to manage the files and the general outlines of the program.

When Maliki was chosen by the last option to be prime minister, I delivered to him some of these documents.

Any program accepted by the forces sufficient to support the movement of traffic in the center of change and reform, creating favorable conditions. Except the Constitution, elections, and a few files, I think that our actions in general reactions so far before they become programs and policies.

This is true in view of the State as a whole file and the security, political, economic, service and in foreign relations.

The problem is the State monopoly and how it seized and takes the interests and standing in front as a barrier, and the state men need to move forward with a conscious initiative as a historic duty of opening the way for the society.

The state today is not as strong as it is allegedly, it is inflated and flaccid and has monopolized everything, and it Should be throwing a lot of its activities to society, a situation it was natural that Iraq before the repeated acquisitions by the State which is the normal situation in the other nations. Management in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was able to work in its administrative reform to reduce from about (70,000) a staff member to merely about (7,000) a staff member. On the other hand, we rose to our system of government of 850 thousand employees before (5) years and soon we will reach two million and a half without the account of retirees.

Inflation, which is based on an old inflation, it is not because the expansion of the services, and business, but we have a large



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defect caused by the absence of the role of society and rely entirely on the resources of the Oil and State staff. For example, the problem mainly in the agricultural file is that there is no farming system at all. Without an agricultural system can not remedy the situation and progress of agriculture. Therefore all policies and other government projects will be lost the support and the talk must centered on the agricultural system is to talk about the property. Therefore, the agricultural property must be organized to achieve the motive of the work of the farmer owner or the owner of investor relations and other socio-economic relations.

As for the issue of health, educational, industrial, social and other files that must be addressed by programs.

Q: You possess a good relationship with the Americans, the Kurds and Iranians. Is this a privilege and recognition of your ability to deal with all the files and burning issues?

VP: I think that I also have a good relationship in Arab countries, both internally and externally, and I believe that building relationships is not based on tactical positions, but mainly based on the strategic and fixed positions, and when it happens, it will check the balance of face "and a strong position to deal with a very wide range of issues, many of which are difficult to search not for the atmosphere of trust and confidence in this regard.

I strained my positions in the building, and will not take a position until after the construction of a fundamentalist central position. The right attitudes reveal a degree of maturity and the ability to defend it is not the center of rings and closed-circuit, but mainly to defend, explain to the public and the political elite to get their conviction and acceptance.

Q: What are your relations with ISCI in the event of departure of H.E. Abdul Aziz Alhakim and the presidency took over of his son H.E. Ammar Alhakim?

VP: ISCI is one of the most institutional political groups of Iraqi parties, despite the fact that institutions in Iraq remain weak, this does not exclude ISCI. Is true that symbolic leadership roles are important, but ISCI is an institution.

I am not saying it is an integrated, or at the

required or where there are no problems and flaws and mistakes, but I say it - in terms of Iraq - one of the most institutionalized political movements. I wish H.E. Abdul Aziz Alhakim's health and wellness and longevity. But my relations with ISCI will stay as an extension of my current relationship. Dealing with ISCI and rushed to the positions I think are correct, and I support my brothers - ISCI's members - even when I do not agree with them, but leave them the opportunity to succeed in their policies.

My policy with ISCI has always been - even in the life of the martyr Shaheed Almihrab, and now with H.E. Abdul Aziz Alhakim - an independent policy. I support what I'm seeing is true, and I am against what I see as wrong. Accounts and personal gains and profits is not a priority. Not claiming it did not exist in behavioral, but I am trying to resist its pressures to stay committed to the idea that I think most of the correct of all else. And I think if you ask the brothers in ISCI they would support this. With the practical work ISCI is measured and not blind loyalty, as I put the interests of religion and the nation over personal or party interests.

Q: Is it true that Mr. Hadi Alamiri, and Sheik Humam Hamoudi, will leave ISCI in the event of departure of H.E. Abdul Aziz Alhakim and the coming of H.E. Amar Alhakim to the leadership?

VP: You must first ask them. Secondly, I do not think that matters in ISCI in this way and I do not think it will be like this. ISCI has demonstrated that it is in a good degree of unity. Perhaps the reason for this unity is the freedom. I am not saying that ISCI had not been subjected to the divisions, but is exposed to in every day.

But these divisions do not appear on the surface violently, as is the case in some other parties. Martyr Mahdi Hakim has a famous saying that his idea may be large, but reflect the exercise of a clear and concrete meaning to say that "ISCI does not know who belongs to it, and those who leave it."

The Late Ayatollah Alhakim also said "ISCI is a moving Parliament." Therefore, ISCI has a high potential for public mobilization and polarization and a weak ability to maneuver the rapid and short-

term planning, while on the other hand, good policies and long-term persistence.

Q: What is your confidence for the success of your efforts for prime minister post? Despite the fact that those close to you always stress that you are not seeking for the post of prime minister of Iraq? Is That true, if so then why the fear and from what?

VP: Policy is two ways, positional and systematical. I was alleged of the second-line leaders. The positional politics seek title to the occupation of posts. This understanding does not mean that person is opportunistic because he aspires to that. But this approach to work where a person believes that if this site, he can reform.

I have fought since the early beginning to the platforms and principles I believe in. Principles may be false or misleading, but I fight and fight for them today. Such a person will move within levels.

The first level to be an impact, if the one is opponent or non opponent out of the responsibility, and this is my current situation, and the second to be in a position of resolution or the staff of resolution, and this is my position now, and third level, that to be the first decision maker, and this is up to the unknown future.

In regard to your question it belongs only to the third level. My cycle movements seeking to work in any of the three levels I have no difference as long as I can to influence the decisions that I think it holds the meanings and the reform of the initial say. Therefore transferred from the Imam (AS) said "to be ministers of you to be better than the princes of you."

This may appear contrary to the lack of responsibility of the person refusing the site and remain at the level of the first or second, if the conditions exist for success in the events of the reform and the person failed to do so. This is what will be relevant for your fear, or fear of responsibility.

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